

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 SMS-01 SAA-01 SSM-03 /094 W
-----049626 122147Z /12

R 111517Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5443
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT POUCH
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, UR, US, XF
SUBJECT: SOVIET MEDIA CRITICIZE CAMP DAVID M.E. MEETING

REF: MOSCOW 15916

1. SOVIET PRESS COVERAGE OF SECRETARY'S M.E. TRIP
AND WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT OF SEPTEMBER 5 CAMP
DAVID MEETING HAS BEEN PREDICTABLY CRITICAL, BUT
HAS ALSO BEEN RATHER LOW KEY IN VOLUME AND TONE.
INDICATIVE HAVE BEEN SUCH ARTICLES AS AUGUST 9
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IZVESTIYA "COMMENTARY" BY A. KAPRALOV AND AUGUST 11
PRAVDA ITEM BY WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT G. VASIL'YEV.
COMMON THEME HAS BEEN THE ALLEGED LACK OF SUBSTANCE
BEHIND THE CONTINUED "THEATRICAL GESTURES" OF M.E.
TRIPS BY ADMINISTRATION REPRESENTATIVES AND MEETINGS
BETWEEN ISRAELIS AND EGYPTIANS. EMPHASIS IS GIVEN
TO THE ALLEGED LACK OF U.S. PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO

MAKE ANY SIGNIFICANT CONCESSIONS. EVENTS ARE INTERPRETED BY SOVIET WRITERS IN SUCH A WAY AS TO SHOW SADAT BACKING DOWN FROM HIS OWN PUBLICLY STATED INTENTION TO HOLD THE LINE AGAINST FURTHER CONCESSIONS TO THE ISRAELIS. YET, CONCLUDES VASIL'YEV, NEW CONCESSIONS, "MORE ACCURATELY CAPITULATIONS," ARE EXPECTED FROM SADAT AT CAMP DAVID.

2. SOVIET PRESS HAS NOT YET HAD TIME TO REACT TO IDEA OF U.S. AS "FULL PARTNER" IN EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS, BUT CAN BE EXPECTED TO CRITICALLY FOCUS ON THIS ASPECT OF FORTHCOMING MEETING AT CAMP DAVID. AT LEAST ONE AUTHORITATIVE SOVIET JOURNALIST HAD EARLIER RAISED THIS POSSIBILITY IN CONNECTION WITH MEETING AT LEEDS CASTLE (REFTEL, PARA 2). TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW19177
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780330-1043
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780874/aaaacjru.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 97d2f264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 MOSCOW 15916
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1768788
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET MEDIA CRITICIZE CAMP DAVID M.E. MEETING
TAGS: PEPR, SOPN, PDEV, UR, US, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/97d2f264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014